



Attorney Docket No. 108-034USANB0

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In Re Continuation Application of:

Applicants : Robert Blake et al.  
Application Serial No.: 09/996,079  
Title : BAR CODE SYMBOL READING SYSTEM  
EMPLOYING ELECTRONICALLY-CONTROLLED  
RASTER-TYPE LASER SCANNER FOR READING  
BAR CODE SYMBOLS DURING HANDS-ON AND  
HANDS-FREE MODES OF OPERATION  
Filing Date : November 28, 2001

Honorable Commissioner of Patents  
and Trademarks  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-referenced Patent Application, please amend the same as follows:

**AMENDMENT OF THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please amend the first paragraph of page 1 of the Specification as follows:

This Application is a Continuation of 09/996,079 filed November 28, 2001 which is a Continuation of 09/154,020 filed September 16, 1998; , now abandoned; which is a Continuation-in-part of: copending of Application Serial No. 08/931,691 filed September 16, 1997, now U.S. Patent No. 6,227,450; entitled "Electronically Controlled Mechanically Damped Off Resonant Light Beam Scanning Mechanism And Code Symbol Readers Employing The Same" by Robert E. Blake, et al. filed September 16, 1997; copending Application Serial No. 09/071,512 entitled "DOE Based Systems And Devices For Producing Laser Beams Having Modified Beam Characteristics" by LeRoy Dickson et al., filed May 1, 1998; copending Application Serial No. 08/931,691 entitled "Electronically Controlled Mechanically Damped Off Resonant Light Beam Scanning Mechanism And Code Symbol Readers Employing The